THE PULSE

News of the
New England Deaconess Hospital Employees

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LABOR RELATIONS COMMITTEE

In the absence of Dr. Cook, Mr. Lowry presided at the August meeting of the Committee on Labor Relations. Twenty-two members were present. The minutes of the last meeting were read and accepted.

Miss Adams reported that the cashing of large bills and checks for patients is being taken care of by the Cashier's Office. Checks for employees will be cashed by the Cashier's Office if okayed by Mr. Lowry.

Mrs. Kimball gave the following report regarding Blue Cross and Blue Shield. It will cost the hospital $7,000 a year to pay one-half the cost of Blue Cross and Blue Shield for each employee. The cost to each employee, paying half, would be as follows:

	Single	*Married*
Blue Cross only	$7.50 yr.	$19.50 yr.
Blue Cross and Blue Shield	12.00 yr.	33.00 yr.

It was decided to make a survey of employees before the next meeting of the Committee to discover how many would be interested in subscribing under this plan.

Miss Adams reported that she had investigated fifteen other hospitals and found that the majority did not grant an additional day of vacation when a holiday falls during the vacation period. After discussion, a motion was made by Miss Nelson that the subject be dropped and that the system of vacations be carried on as at the present time. This motion was carried.

The five-day week was also discussed. The Chairman announced that, at the present time, the shortage of help makes it impossible to have a five-day week for all employees. An effort is being made to place all employees on a five and one-half day week.

Voted to adjourn at 3:15 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,
GLADYS R. HARRISON,
Secretary.

PHOTO-ROENTGEN UNIT

The X-Ray Department has a new baby! It is known as a photo-roentgen unit and was designed for a survey type examination of the chest. Machines of this type were first used in the induction centers during the recent war, and during that time proved to be of great value in detecting disease of the heart and lungs. Tuberculosis is the disease of chief interest in such health surveys, but other conditions of importance may also be found in smaller numbers. The machine is not designed for the study of persons known to have disease, but is intended only for screening. Disease found by the screening process must be further studied by the usual methods already in use.

Surveys conducted by the use of full size x-ray films are so expensive as to be almost prohibitive, but with the photo-roentgen unit the cost is greatly reduced because of the smaller films which are used. The film which is obtained with the photo-roentgen unit is a photograph of an image on a fluorescent screen, the image on the screen being produced by x-rays exactly as in fluoroscopy. Similar machines are now in use by departments of health throughout the country, but the Deaconess Hospital is one of the first general hospitals in New England to have one in use.

The unit is already being used for the routine examinations of nurses and employees and will shortly be used for patients not known to have disease of the heart or lungs. Patients known to have disease of the chest will continue to be examined in the usual way and if the small survey film shows disease, appropriate further studies will be carried out. The important feature of the new unit, therefore, is that disease may be revealed in an early and unsuspected stage. Proper treatment may thus be instituted in the early stage, with resultant shortening of the period of disability and improvement in the chance for real cure.

J. H. MARKS, M. D.

BOWLING

Monday, the sixth, inaugurated the first bowling session of the season. The attendance was very good. Honors for the highest single and average for the evening go to Mr. Emery, who bowled a high of 116 and an average of 92. Highest single for the women goes to Miss Brown, who bowled a high of 93 and the highest average of 80.50 is credited to Miss Romano.

Let's keep up the good work! We would like to see higher scores and averages. Incidentally, for those who do not know and would like to join the party, the time is 8:00 P. M. on Monday at the Fenway Bowling Alleys, directly beneath the Fenway Theatre. All are invited.

Here are the departmental averages:

Pharmacy	78.56
Laundry	72.87
Chemistry	71.00
Palmer O. R.	69.02
Deaconess O. R.	68.33
Solution Room	67.50
Executive	65.50

FRIENDS OF THE DEACONESS, INC.

Recently Mrs. Henry Porter compiled a list of gifts to the Deaconess Hospital from the Friends of the Deaconess, Inc., during the fifteen-year period since their founding. The results were so impressive that even those who had been closely connected with each fund raising endeavor through the years were amazed when the combined figures were read at their spring meeting.

Because we feel that all of you will be interested in knowing the wide variety of these gifts, as well as the great amount of money represented by them, we are listing a few:

Surgical dressings material	$2,487.52
Instruments	1,940.00
Decoration of patients' rooms	927.00
Friends of the Deaconess Scholarship—1947	600.00
Miscellaneous gifts of $100, $200, $300, and $400	6,528.37
	$12,482.89

Beyond this, from December 7, 1937 through April 15, 1947, the Friends of the Deaconess, Inc., made allocations from their funds which, with accumulated interest, now total $30,640.56, to the Daniel Fiske Jones Memorial Fund, to provide the main operating room in the proposed new building.

This list does not include one of the greatest contributions of the Friends of the Deaconess—that is, the time that has been given by them in making dressings and in working in various capacities throughout the hospital. Under their very capable president, Mrs. Alexander Grant, who has herself given well over 4,000 hours as a Nurse's Aide in the wards, the Friends of the Deaconess continue to work diligently in our behalf. We owe them a very sincere vote of thanks!

HOUSEKEEPING

Mrs. Doody is the new supervisor in the Housekeeping Department. She replaces Miss Cross who took another position at the Ogontz School in Philadelphia. Pat Cook had his picture in the newspapers recently. As a provisional fireman attached to Engine 33 for the night of September twenty-fourth, he was called to a fire at 151

Massachusetts Avenue. On arrival at the fire, which was in the same block as his apartment, he ran up to his third floor apartment and led out Mrs. Cook and their daughter, Betty. A fireman was injured and traffic tangled in the area for nearly an hour. Agnes Hurley and Catherine Kelly spent two week-ends in New York recently.

MAINTENANCE

A fireproof shelter, approximately 20 feet square, is in the process of construction at the side of the laundry facing the driveway. This building will consist of two separate sections. One will house inflammable fluids such as alcohol, xylol, nitrous oxide, ether, and so forth. These inflammable fluids are used by the Pharmacy and the O. R. The other section is for rubbish, which is not only unsightly but unsanitary and which now clutters up the driveway.

TURN OFF THAT FAUCET! Some of our patients are singing the BLEEP BLOOP SONG.

NURSING

Congratulations to Dr. and Mrs. Charles A. Kane (Mildred Johnson) on the birth of a son, Charles Arthur, Jr., on August 24 in Cleveland, Ohio. Miss Anna McKinnon is godmother to the baby. For Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Mitchell (Virginia Cole) it's a son born on August 20 at Richardson House, and for Dr. and Mrs. Paul Doehring (Katherine Manter) it's a daughter born in Oakland, California. And congratulations to Mrs. Eliot McIsaac (Doris Nelson, Baker 3) on her recent marriage.

There have been several changes and promotions in our nursing staff. Miss Hinckley resigned from Palmer 3. Miss Kirschbaum will be Head Nurse on that floor. Miss Hackett has been appointed as Miss Kirschbaum's assistant. Miss Heikkala will replace Miss Kirschbaum on Palmer 5. Mrs. Olive Davis Palacz will be Head Nurse on Baker 5, a new medical unit, replacing Miss Ruth Johnson who has resigned after serving on the staff for a period of 13 years. Miss Johnson was presented with a gift from the Nursing Staff and one from the hospital administration in appreciation of her long years of service to the Deaconess Hospital. Other changes include the appointment of Miss Metcalf as Head Nurse on Deaconess 3, south end with Miss Tungland as her assistant; and Miss Roberts as Assistant Night Supervisor in Palmer.

Answer please! Why were Miss Durant and Miss Cormier pacing the floor at Kent Street one morning at three o'clock, Was it because a new gas stove is being installed there?

PATHOLOGY

Kay Haley, PULSE reporter, is vacationing in Washington, D. C., and Maryland. Coming to the laboratory from the Lahey Clinic is Dr. John Cranor. Added to our technical staff are Nancy Trowbridge and Marietta Carr, while Clara Algeri is working on the secretarial staff. Jane Hennelly has been employed as statistician and Ardelle Ruby has come back to the hospital to work on our clerical force. With the help of the Maintenance Department, the Pathology Laboratory is expanding. Part of the Kent Street garage is being remodeled for our use.

PURCHASING

Congratulations to Fred McCusty on his recent marriage to Martha Thompson of Brighton. The couple will spend their honeymoon in Washington, D. C.

RECORD ROOM

We wish to extend to Miss Studley our sympathy in the recent loss of her father. Miss Evelyn Wilson spent a week in Lewiston and Portland and returned after the holiday.

SOCIAL SERVICE

Welcome back to Muriel Oakman, one of our former associate Editors, who is helping out in the absence of Mrs. Jameson, to whom we wish a quick recovery. A "pepsi-party" was held for Gladys Harrison on September eighteenth in honor of her birthday. Everything is back to normal now with the return of Miss Maude Maher who has been vacationing at her home in Lowell and traveling as far south as Washington, D. C. Dr. and Mrs. Perry Futterman entrained for points west (Niagara Falls, Chicago, and Rochester, Minnesota) the first of the month to combine business with pleasure on their vacation trip.

Yellow is the color. We know you'll like it if you care to visit this department. A new coat of paint and some autumn-colored draperies have been added. A recent letter from Mrs. VandeVoren, Gelderland, Holland, expresses grateful appreciation from her family for the relief package sent to them through the efforts of those who responded to our call for contributions. Existence in this war-torn country is now, more than ever, a grave problem due to crop failure, lack of rain, and the current Indonesian situation.

STAFF NOTES

The Thirty-Third Clinical Congress of the American College of Surgeons, held in New York City from September 8-12, was attended by Dr. Fran seen, Dr. John McKittrick, and Dr. Buddington. Dr. Marks also attended conferences in New York City early in September. Dr. Priscilla White recently returned from St. Louis, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, and New York City after presenting a series of lectures on pediatrics and the diabetic dilemma. Dr. Quah Rumph paid a visit to Palmer last month. He looked unusually tanned and fine after a vacation at Nantucket. He was en route to Texas, his home state, to take up his practice there.

EDITORIAL STAFF

Ellen Adams, Mary E. Parkins } *Editors*

Marion Lynch, Charles Schraub } *Associates*

Administration ..... Catherine Galvin
Admitting ..... Marion Haskell
Blood Bank ..... Ruth Newton
Chemical Lab. ..... Constance Sellman
Dietary ..... Bernice Quimby
Engineering ..... Herbert Robinson
Hostesses ..... Esther Prince
Housekeeping ..... Hazel Gormley
Laundry ..... Rita Dennehy
Nursing ..... Dorothy Ogrean
Pathological Lab. ..... Kathryn Haley
Pharmacy ..... John Keefe
Purchasing ..... John Karman
Record Rooms ..... Katharine Shirley
Social Service ..... Mary Kelly
Solution Room ..... Dorothy Blanchard
Volunteer Service ..... Pamela Whitney
X-ray ..... Eleanore Jacobs